

**Larimer County Genealogical Society**  
**General Meeting Minutes**  
**August 16, 2007**  
**Harmony Library**  
**Harmony and Shields Street**  
**Fort Collins**  
**Community Room**

President Ken Goldsberry called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. He welcomed visitors and new members. Due to the exceptionally large number of visitors, Ken did not introduce them individually. For the benefit of the visitors and new members, he explained both Genealogy Gems and the Question and Answer Coal Scuttle.

**Genealogy Gems**

President Goldsberry called for Genealogy Gems; he described a non-genealogy related “gem” of his own. He was cleaning out a hornets’ nest and got stung several times.

Hap Hazard, Publications Chair, described a Genealogy Gem performed by one of the Society’s members. The Society has recently acquired a video called “Cryptic Clues in the Bone Yard”. Member Carrie Graves borrowed the video, and while she had it, wrote up a handout to go along with the video. It should be very helpful to members; Hap extended the Society’s appreciation to Carrie for her work. He also noted how appropriate it was that the person who wrote about cemeteries for the Society is named “Graves”.

**Recycle Table**

Cathi Smith, Recycle Table Chair, explained to new members and visitors how the Table works. Ken stated that the Recycle Table should be renamed the “5 and 10 cent store” because many items cost that much. Cathi announced that several new items had been donated, including numerous magazines. She stated that all new members and visitors are entitled to a free magazine – this evening only!

At this point a break for refreshments and conversation was taken. Due to the large number of visitors, many introductions and “getting to know you” conversations were instigated.

**Featured Speaker**

Member Carol Stetser then presented a program entitled “Finding Great Grandpa Online”. This was a program designed to help researchers get the most from their online time. The first portion of the program described steps that should be taken before going online, including choosing a research subject, gathering as much information as possible and deciding which websites to visit.

The second part of the program presented various websites that beginning, and even more advanced, researchers can access. These included Ancestry.com, Familysearch.org and the USgenweb site. Carol discussed these websites using the format of a case study involving her great grandfather. She showed how each of the websites could be accessed to find various types of information about a specific person (see attached handout for more information).

Carol also reminded members that both the Loveland and Fort Collins Libraries now have access to Ancestry.com. The Fort Collins Library subscription to Ancestry is very recent and is due, in part, to a gift presented to the library by the Society.

Finally, Carol discussed a handout prepared by Vice President Len Ray (see attached copy). This handout is a listing of essential websites for genealogists. The last section of the handout describes several informative videos, DVDs and CDs that the Society has available for members to borrow. Members may make arrangements to borrow the videos from Hap Hazard, Publications Chair.

## **Business Meeting**

At the end of the presentation, a short business meeting was held.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Mary Joy Hauk reported that the Society bank balance is presently \$1752.77. She remarked that the Society receives commissions from purchases made, through the Society website, from Amazon.com and Ancestry.com. She encouraged members who purchase from those sources to go through the Society website. Hap Hazard reported that he recently purchased a lawn mower through Amazon.com; the Society got the commission. Way to go, Hap!

### **Website**

Webmaster Dolores Ray was not present, but President Goldsberry reported that she is presently finishing uploading scanned obituaries to the website. He briefly described the project which involved scanning over 14,000 obituaries from the *Coloradoan* and then placing them on the Society website, where they will be of value to researchers. It has been a very large project, and those who helped with it are to be congratulated for a job well done.

### **Education and Outreach**

Several workshops will be coming up in the next month or two, including an Introduction to Genealogy Workshop on October 13 and a workshop on DNA on October 20 (see attached informational sheets on these workshops). In addition, Paul Smith will be presenting a workshop on "Irfanview, a Free Photo Editing Software" on September 29 at the Fort Collins Main Library (see attached handout).

### **Hospitality**

Hospitality Chair Marge Abrames announced that she will be retiring at the end of 2007 as Hospitality Chair. She urged members to consider taking over the position. The Society appreciates Marge's service; she's done a good job.

### **Family Tree Maker Group**

Bob Larson, who runs the Family Tree Maker Group, reported that there will be a meeting of the group on September 4 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Harmony Library. Anyone who uses Family Tree Maker, or any other genealogy software, is invited to attend.

## **Genealogy Gem**

One last Genealogy Gem was presented by Esther Pressler. She recently cleaned out a closet and found eight Bibles that she had forgotten about and had never looked at. They had been passed down to her years ago. In one of them, she found five or six pages of great genealogical information. She's thrilled, and the rest of the Society is envious!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.